

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0000

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 7800

USEC

USOECD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, NATO, ECE

SUBJ: ECE WESTERN CAUCUS DISCUSSION ON ENVIRONMENT MEETING

SEPTEMBER 19-21, 1977

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REF: STATE 215524

1. MISSION CONCERNED THAT U.S. OBJECTIVES FOR ECE SENIOR ADVISERS
ON ENVIRONMENT MEETING (SAEP) ASOUTLINED PARA 2 AND 4 OF REFTEL
MAY GO BEYOND MANDATE ENVISAGED IN ECE RESOLUTION I (XXXII)
AND RUN COUNTER TO STANOVNIK'S VIEWS ON MEETING.

2. RESOLUTION 1 (XXXII) CALLS ON THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO CARRY OUT DETAILED ANALYSIS OF TOPICS WHICH MIGHT BE CONSIDERED FOR A HIGH LEVEL MEETING AND TO REPORT TO COMMISSION AT 33RD SESSION. SAEP IS SUPPOSED TO ASSIST EXEC. SEC., BUT RESPONSIBILITY IS CLEARLY GIVEN TO HIM. HAVING SAEP ENGAGE IN PROCEDURE LEADING TO DECISION ON FINAL RECOMMENDED LIST OF TOPICS WOULD APPEAR TO GO BEYOND THIS MANDATE AND ALSO HAVE EFFECT OF PREJUDGING DECISION WHICH COMMISSION HAS RESERVED FOR ITSELF.

ECE SECRETARIAT (STILLMAN) HAS MADE CLEAR TO US THAT STANOVNIK ENVISAGES DELEGATES TO SEAP MEETING EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS ON THE DIFFERENT TOPICS AND LEAVING IT UP TO STANOVNIK TO WRITE HIS REPORT AND TO TRANSMIT IT DIRECTLY TO COMMISSION. HENCE, STANOVNIK FORESEES THAT ONLY MINUTES OF SEAP MEETING WILL BE PREPARED AND NOT A FINAL REPORT.

3. DURING NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON STANOVNIK SEPT 12, AMBASSADOR STATED THAT SOVIETS WERE ENVISAGING SAEP MAKING DECISIONS ON TOPICS, AND GETTING INTO QUESTIONS OF PROCEDURES AND MODALITIES. STANOVNIK MADE CLEAR THAT THIS WAS OUTSIDE GROUP'S MANDATE AND THAT AS CONVENOR OF THE MEETING HE WOULD NOT HESITATE TO POINT THIS OUT.

4. MISSION BELIEVES THAT ECE RESOLUTION 1 (XXXII)
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ESTABLISHES BEST PROCEDURE ACHIEVABLE BY EAST-WEST CONSENSUS FOR DECIDING ON QUESTION OF POSSIBLE HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON ENVIRONMENT (AND PERHAPS EVENTUALLY ON OTHER TOPICS) AND THAT IT IS IN US INTEREST TO ADHERE STRICTLY TO ITS PROVISIONS. WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT IT WOULD BE INADVISABLE TO APPEAR TO PUSH SAEP TO ACT AS DECISION MAKING BODY ON POSSIBLE TOPICS RE HIGH LEVEL MEETING. SAEP IS NOT CALLED UPON TO ASSUME THIS ROLE, AND EXCEPT FOR THE NORWEGIANS, WE DOUBT THAT OUR WESTERN ALLIES ARE PREPARED TO SEE IT PROCEED IN THIS DIRECTION. VANDEN HEUVEL

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